

Inaugural Essay
on
the *Smyrnium Trifoliatum*
for
the degree of Doctor of Medicine
in the
University of Pennsylvania
by
Littleberry G. Wynn
of
Virginia -

Revised - March 1828

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Dioscorides, a Greek Physician first noticed this
Plant. This physician has paid attention to 600
Plants, and the Smygium is one of them.
But his descriptions are often so slight and imperfect,
as to leave their identity a matter of conjecture.
Nuttall denominates it the Thapsia trifoliata of
Linnaeus. Cnidium Cordatum of Ruess.
Smygium Cordatum of Walter and Pursh.
Nuttall's description is as follows. Leaves ornate,
radicles suborbiculate, uppermost 3-parted.
Flowers yellow, involucell. 3 leaved, antiteral, calice
5 toothed. Petals oval acuminate, involute.
Fruit small blackish, somewhat laterally compressed,
seeds gibbous marked with 3 immarginate angular
elevations, exclusive of inner margins, intervals
substrate, its commissure flat.
Smygium Cordatum of Walter & Pursh. Solis
radicibus suborbiculato cordatis, ornatis, caulibus
petiolatis trifoliatis supremis 3 partibus umbellatis,

*herbarium. Rush-radical leaves, suborbiculate, cordate,
crenate, stem leaves petiolate, trifoliate, upper ones 3
parted, umbels, without short radii—

I shall describe it in the following manner, radical
leaves are suborbiculate, crenate leaves have their edges
notched around the circumference, in resemblance, to a
common dining plate—

Having 2 rounded projections, inclining to neither side.

The radical leaves are cordate or heart shaped—

Stem leaves are petiolate, and has petioles inserted
into the base. They are also trifoliate, upper ones 3 parted,
umbels with short radii and these are made in flowering
in which a number of flowers issuing from a common
center, diverging like the rays of an umbelliferous bearing
these flowers on the summit, and raising them about
the same height—

The effluorescence, is of an umbelliferous character
similar to the *Centaurium officinale* *Petroselinum* or the
Panicum Coriaria. The fruit is subelliptic, or of an oval

from—they are also covered, with 5 slated ridges—&c—

The involucells are nearly, allied to the calyx, which I mean
these leaf like appendages which frequently, enclose the
cup of the umbels—also—subequal, intervals grassed—

To these leaves Botanist apply the term involucrate—

Linnæus—regards them, as a common calyx—placed at a
distance— from the flower, calyx is an investment or
covering— of the flowers— which after some, the purpose of a
temporary bud—

It also preserves the more tender organs within it from
injury— And elaborates, the sap which goes to the
nourishment of the flower stalk— This is a perennial
Plant and is seen during the hibernal season, with its radical
leaves in a perfect state of verdure— But the stem leaves
are wanting— or in other words never exist during winter—
The stalk at this period is dead—

These are only present during summer—in winter 2 or 3
radical leaves remaining perfectly green— and retain
their proper shape &c The radical leaves exist in winter only—

The first edition of this volume appeared in the year
1801, and was published by the author, in London, at the
printing office of the Rev. Mr. G. G. & Co. in Pall Mall.
The second edition, which is now before me, is a new
and enlarged edition, and is published by the same
gentlemen, in the year 1802. It contains many
improvements, and is in every respect a new
work. The third edition, which is now before me, is a
new and enlarged edition, and is published by the same
gentlemen, in the year 1803. It contains many
improvements, and is in every respect a new
work. The fourth edition, which is now before me, is a
new and enlarged edition, and is published by the same
gentlemen, in the year 1804. It contains many
improvements, and is in every respect a new
work. The fifth edition, which is now before me, is a
new and enlarged edition, and is published by the same
gentlemen, in the year 1805. It contains many
improvements, and is in every respect a new
work. The sixth edition, which is now before me, is a
new and enlarged edition, and is published by the same
gentlemen, in the year 1806. It contains many
improvements, and is in every respect a new
work. The seventh edition, which is now before me, is a
new and enlarged edition, and is published by the same
gentlemen, in the year 1807. It contains many
improvements, and is in every respect a new
work. The eighth edition, which is now before me, is a
new and enlarged edition, and is published by the same
gentlemen, in the year 1808. It contains many
improvements, and is in every respect a new
work. The ninth edition, which is now before me, is a
new and enlarged edition, and is published by the same
gentlemen, in the year 1809. It contains many
improvements, and is in every respect a new
work. The tenth edition, which is now before me, is a
new and enlarged edition, and is published by the same
gentlemen, in the year 1810. It contains many
improvements, and is in every respect a new
work.

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This plant derived its name from *Cypripedium* - the smell of the seed resembling that of Myrrh - very much -

This is seen during the Months of June and July in flower - It flourishes luxuriantly, on mountainous woodlands - clay soil appears to suit it best - It is found along rivulets, and in valleys - may be seen on the Schuylkill near Philadelphia - frequently among rocks -

The *Smyrnum* flourishes from the New England States to North Carolina - The *Smyrnum Trifoliatum* is a plant belonging to the genus of plants called Alexanders, Clap Pentandria - Order, Digynia -

This plant has been noticed by me for several years, previous to my administering it -

As Botanist as far, as we are capable of judging, has noticed the active principles of the root of this plant - As far as my practical observations teach me, I am decidedly of the opinion, that all its active properties, reside in the roots - Here I draw it of some

As a result of the continued and increasing controversy, the discovery of a new fossil is expected. —



As to the South Sea Islands, I have seen many of them, but I do not
know of any of them which are of the same size as the
one which I have seen. The islands which I have
seen are all of the same size, and I have seen
many of them. The islands which I have
seen are all of the same size, and I have seen
many of them. The islands which I have
seen are all of the same size, and I have seen
many of them.

The seeds of the sugar cane are very small, and I have seen
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new - the same as the old of leucorrhoea. The medicine is given internally, in 15 to 20 drops 3 or 4 times a day on lukewarm water, or after the last meal - and the same may now be left of the case, instead of depending on the external use of the same. The best result may be obtained, by using the medicine with saline water. I left the medicine alone, when the disease was common, the concentration of the medicine is not good, and the same is done in 10 minutes according to the appearance of the case for treatment -

This is a graduated dose, more of salt but should not be continued for a long time. I have made some variable use to give the the saline matter & have decided this is the best mode. As the patient is constitutionally weak & has not a strong stomach, I have not been able to give more than 10 grains of the powder. I have been in doubt as to the propriety of a Purgative







*See last paragraph. Statement is in of time to the
part to serve and return to the same —

He called his collection "Stages of Development"
which put each specimen "under the eye" and
"flushed" the specimen from front to back
and out of the eye of the viewer. ~~4~~ times
specimens are given labels for the specimen.

The removal of the "poor heart" upon its immediate
post-mortem inspection found upon a statement, being
sent over -

As the students' understanding of the subject was
impaired at various points, experienced the consequen-
ces arising from the subtraction of the amount of the
bank. The result of the process is better
explained as to give an illustrative diagram of the
working out of the problem. The result.

I have before I enter into a minute detail of the cases without
 calling for comment. I have this to say: never have
 I seen so many the effects of the wrongs of the oppressed.

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but I have been able to see the effects of the
12. I have seen the effects of the medicine — but it did
not hurt in any of them — From the experiments
made, the effects are much to be expected.
against the effects of the poison of the viper's head.
From the circumstance of the poison, some effects
to be expected.

I will now state the cases and course of the
experiment — which were the same as the first — and the
administration of the medicine —

Case 7.

10. regards the human subject —

A boy aged, 12 years, belonging to the
was bitten near the malleolus internus, by a Copperhead.
This boy experienced much pain, great acute sensibility
of the wounded parts — There were also a peculiar
penetrating sensation — and constriction of the soft
parts —

The swelling — was rapid — superficial inflammation

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came on - the capillaries soon were reddened by a
dilatation of blood to the parts -

chills and vomiting ensued - and ultimately the
genity subsided - The pulse was somewhat accelerated,
and - intermitting - some fever supervened - the pain
which is felt in cases of this nature - is of a diverging
character - like the rays flying from a center -
slight slight rigors - delirium, and melancholic
symptoms - the prevailing distress of the patient -

When these urgent symptoms were present - I ventured
to administer a decoction of this plant -
and upon its immediate introduction - viz. the
stomach - all violent symptoms were entirely
dissipated -

In 10 or 15 minutes - the patient went to sleep - and
remained - in this particular condition nearly
5 hours - The whole system became tranquilized -
a profuse diaphoresis speedily took place -
The skin in a short time was soft and relaxed -

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this patient was cured by this Medicine —
 Case 2^d —

Maj. P. had his Son bitten by a C. serpenter —
 This patient was 10 years old — he was bitten on the
 1st middle finger — immediately on the second
 joint — He received two bites — in succession — on
 the same joint — There were 5 or 6 orifices, made
 by the fangs of the snake — the finger bled profusely,
 the pain was very acute and lacerating — this
 patient suffered immensely, the joint of the finger
 soon commenced swelling, and this inflammation
 continued — up the finger to the hand and wrist —
 finally to the axilla —

There was a sore upon the Pectoral muscles —
 attended with a profuse discharge of pus —
 The arm and muscular parietes of the axilla were
 much swelled — and this extended to the axillary glands
 and cellular membrane &c —
 Soon after receiving the bite — vomiting commenced —

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large evacuations of bile of a dark gelatinous nature,
frequent inclinations to stool—and often simultaneous
evacuations of Urine—

These symptoms were attended with much gastric
irritability—much activity was given to the Lungs &
venous sympathy—The peristaltic motions of the
Intestines were much agitated—these distressing
phenomena were succeeded by such headache—
vertigo—dimness of Vision &c.—

The pulse hurried and much agitated—respiration
hurried and difficult—thirst excessive, great uneasiness
in great mental derangement &c.—

I was called on 2 hours after the accident had occurred,
when I saw him he was then labouring under the
symptoms just enumerated—

I withheld any degree of hesitation—general excitation
of the Mind to him—The result was not disappointing
in speaking almost instantaneously returned
him—there was a general tranquillity produced by the

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specific action of this medicine on the system —
In a few minutes sleep was procured, and upon waking — he was nearly well — except his finger —

I will state that the finger which on recovery did not yet well — until the expiration of 8 months after he received the bite —

The parts inflamed and went on to suppuration — and ulceration — the finger was healed 3 times to original size — there were fungous granulations thrown out — and these appeared to have taken their origin from the surrounding integuments —

This finger proved very intractable in its cure — caustic applications were used, and many others, as blistering, poultices, cupping, and the associated structure of skin &c —

What he mentions is that the finger ever afterwards remained in a state of rigidity of osseous matter, and calcification being entirely lost — This is an accurate history of the second case — R.R.

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Case 3rd

Mr. To Little Son was bitten on the ball of the large toe - aged 11 years - The pain which he complained of, was very excruciating - from the circumference of the ball of the toe - the swelling in this case was not extensive - but the part was much swelled - and extended to the ankle - 12-13-

The hemorrhage was slight - this boy vomited 2 or 3 times - accompanied with headache - and diarrhoea in a slight degree - many other symptoms - exhibited themselves - but it is not necessary to mention them here - I said this patient 2 hours after bitten, I gave a decoction of this medicine - it perfectly cured him - This patient was relieved of every symptom in 10 minutes after taking it -

Case 4th

Mr. P. aged 28 years -

Was bitten by a large snake the same day



existing, however, in the acute stage. The consequences
resulting from the effects of the virus were obviously
to an alarming degree. The virus which produced
was in a degree of concentration & virulence and action
were instantaneous and violent.

This man was better on the back of the right hand,
the hand and arm were swollen, and in a few days,
the arm was of a greenish colour with streaks of white
no lines running in a longitudinal, or spiral direction.
There was a sort of singular phenomenon, the patient's
tongue was swollen to such an extent that he was
unable to close the mouth.

He projected out of his mouth in such a manner.
There was a copious discharge of saliva at the time
& sometimes the glands of the throat were in
a morbid condition, respiration difficult,
hoarse, and contracted.

The patient complained of soreness of the neck and
intercostal muscles.



This patient has considerable fever, which is not
skin, some headache, no cough - no large discharges, and
no moderate diarrhoea, nothing of the kind.

This patient could not take any food, but was thirsty -
had great restlessness, and the patient was restless
faintness - all these perplexities originating from the
symptoms being a consequence and result - After some
sweating at the forehead, restlessness - having been pronounced
and so - it seemed as if the patient was nearly
exhausted -

And in order to get the medicine into the stomach
I introduced a tube into the stomach, and gave it
at once - And threw into the stomach a
solution which he has previously prepared
for the express purpose - All the distressing symptoms in
a few minutes gently subsided - the tranquillity gave
evidence of the medicine - there was no more restlessness
and labour and the patient appeared -
and was, however, not a little distressed, the



Large vessel was very much swelled - rapidly collapsed
and a permanent, its original shape and size -

The vessel had become so much so that it was impossible to
use it as a pump. It was in the neighborhood
of the entrance of the canal -

Eight months after the accident the vessel was
at the same place. The vessel was in the
channel - The consequences were of the same kind as the
case, was similar to that of the same vessel - see in
the end of the vessel - the vessel had
accidents to the same effect - the vessel was
severely injured - 4.

Oct 11 2 -

The 8. The vessel was in the water -
The vessel experienced great pain - considerable
and swelling of the joints affected, by the disease -
The foot severely had been torn and was in such
a degree that it was unable to walk - and was
compelled to keep the foot in an elevated position -



When I saw the same in children, as you, suffering
symptoms associated with a degeneration of the skeleton
from the fact that the same continuous location
of water in a chamber with the same and similar
degenerations more or less different, there was no color

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This was a case of some material fracture or separation
of the bone in my tooth. I do not know —
This was now better than ever before in the right part
near the middle of the bone — On the 14th day after
being better I was sent for to see the effect of the
plant as many other experiments seemed a good to tell
of the growth was setting — That is, instead of
depression — and a discovery of the fracture had been
without a cure being perfect was a good sign
— and a discovery of the fracture had been
without a cure being perfect was a good sign
— and a discovery of the fracture had been
without a cure being perfect was a good sign

The system produced out the different categories without
using the Lippman from an accident of this nature.



The first is that the... at the... and... that the...
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The last individual now smaller than the first —
 after the first of a series of 10 observed a greenish
 line, somewhat obsolete towards the posterior extremity
 of the anal segment — small, slightly undulating, on the left
 of the median ventral line, on the anal segment of the
 abdomen, not within the space of 1 joint in length,
 increased in width towards the posterior end of the abdomen —

a) Spore - very small, round, with a thick wall, and a thin membrane.
 b) Vegetative cell - large, oval, with a thin wall, and a thin membrane.
 c) Spore - very small, round, with a thick wall, and a thin membrane.



at the same time I did not think the patient was in
any danger of a severe attack of pneumonia.
But I cannot say for certain that the
disease is not a simple catarrh of the
bronchi.

After the patient had been in bed for a few days
gradually recovering - the respiratory system
being still in a state of inflammation - a
severe attack of pneumonia occurred. I have often seen patients after
this kind of pneumonia in this state for some time
after the patient took the medicine to be given
and to remain in bed for some time and still be
in a state of recovery. I continued the
treatment for some time and at the same time
the patient was in a state of recovery. I continued the
treatment for some time and at the same time
the patient was in a state of recovery. I continued the
treatment for some time and at the same time
the patient was in a state of recovery.

I continued the treatment for some time and at the same time
the patient was in a state of recovery.



[illegible]





to the stomach he collects a

Case g^h —

2. Mr. H. had a severe NO. Nasman billon on a Colchicine

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The patient who I saw her last Sunday, in the evening.

Al. p. 11



With all these symptoms supervening, at the time
of the first seizure, the symptoms were
not more violent than in a similar case, the
intermission.

Dr. Russell & myself saw the patient
during the course of the last seizure, & saw

the patient & saw the patient during the
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I have not yet been able to find any more of the
same or of any other kind of the same. I have been
pulling out every one I have seen. I have
at the same time been looking for the same
kind of the same in the same place.

I have not yet been able to find any more of the
same or of any other kind of the same. I have been
pulling out every one I have seen. I have
at the same time been looking for the same
kind of the same in the same place.

I have not yet been able to find any more of the
same or of any other kind of the same. I have been
pulling out every one I have seen. I have
at the same time been looking for the same
kind of the same in the same place.

I have paid the greatest attention to this point and
to others for several years. I have been looking out
everywhere and everywhere I have been looking out
I have not yet been able to find any more of the
same or of any other kind of the same. I have been
pulling out every one I have seen. I have
at the same time been looking for the same
kind of the same in the same place.



[illegible][illegible]

His own thought is that perhaps some that we
 had the influence of the most thoughtful and most
 useful in England at present were among those with
 whom I have met here, with long, long, and
 the same kind of conversation. I have been
 about 10 years in the United States and have



In a few months their eyes are again red and sore
and often a large discharge - and increased tenderness
of the eyes - I can find out a hundred in that
condition in Baltimore, there will be hereafter - no
difficulty in obtaining a valuable contribution - except
the common, little streaks - the "apple pie" -





I. D. D.

My dear Mr. D. D. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours very truly,
J. D. D.
P. S. I have the honor to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours very truly,
J. D. D.



The first of these is the fact that the
the individual is a person who is
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The second of these is the fact that the
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The third of these is the fact that the
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The fourth of these is the fact that the
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the individual is a person who is



[illegible]

It is with below the surface of the ground of this place
in the large mountain - about 100 ft.
from the surface of the ground, and the surface of the mountain



One more case, I think worthy of communicating—Capt. Letcher
inhabitant of the County of Henric—Virginia—Had
— a famous running-hound which was bitten by a Dog which,
was said to be mad—in other words having Canine Madnes.
In order to try the effects of this Plant—it was given to him, in
large and repeated doses—in to act as an Antidote—against
the pernicious consequences which were imagined to happen
from such an accident—

When this Medicine was first administered it succeeded surprisingly
well—it was continued for 3 days without intermission—
and then gradually discontinued—All that I can say of this
Case—the dog did not grow mad—I will say a few words on the
wounds which this dog received, from the Bite which was
mad—these were superficial, and extended merely through the
integuments and skin—&c—

The hemorrhage was nearly 2 drams the parts swelled, in a
moderate degree—

Afterwards Necrosed. and Labeled—

This wound was situated—in the hind leg—12 Months after

this bite the same Dog was bitten a second time by another Dog
which was Mad—

The hemorrhage in this case was 2 table spoon full. the
Medicine in this case so soon given until the 3^d day
after the dog had been bitten—

Perhaps the Absorbent had taken up the Virus during
that period—the deactivation in this case proved—proved by
negatory—and non-occurrence—although given in large
and repeated doses—

This deactivation was made in the following manner—

2-3 of the pulverized root—put to 3 parts of Hot Milk—and boiled
to half its quantity—And given in full doses often repeated.
In order to communicate these experiments—more at its publicity
I will say a few words with regard to the two Dogs which was
said to be Mad—

All the observance in each case which were bitten by these
Dog—soon died—But the dog which gave Medicine for
did not—he escaped—The second Dog Went Mad & C.

Paris—14th June—1825—

[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

[Faint handwriting on the right edge of the page.]